building, procurement of hardware and software is under progress.

(c) and (d) Out of the total finance of Rs. 895 lakhs required for setting up the Centre, Rs. 511 lakhs is to be provided by the Commission of the European Communities.

Project for the Development of Application Specific Integrated Circuits for Digital T.V.

2169. SHRI V. RAJESHWAR RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the DOE has a project for the Development of Application Specific Integrated Circuits (ASICs) for Digital T.V. (DTV) in the country;

(b) if so, what is the nature of this project;

(c) whether a working model of the DTV using FPGA clips has been developed;

(d) if not, what are the reasons for this delay; and

(e) how would the Doordarshan benefit from this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY, DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS, DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (b) The Government of India, Department of Electronics have initiated a project on System & VLSI Design (FPGA version) for Digital TV Receiver for implementation by leading academic and R&D institutions in the country.

(c) and (d) The work on development of prototype using FPGA chips is in progress.

(e) This Digital TV Receiver is aimed at improving the performance of Analogue TV Receiver and would be compatible with the present transmission of Doordarshan in the country. With this design, it would be easier to offer additional features such as flicker free operation, teletext, ghost cancellation, etc.

Decline in the Production of Colour TV Receivers

2170. SHRIMATI SATYA BAHIN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a decline in the production of colour TV receivers in India;

(b) whether because of this the production of components like picture tubes, defection components, tuners etc. has declined; and

(c) if so, what is the reason for this decline?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY, DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS, DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The primary reasons for this decline in production during past 3 years had been lack of demand, increase in prices on account of decline in value of rupee vis-a-vis foreign currency and high Excise and Customs Duties.

Sale of Shares of Shipping Corporation of India

@2171. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of shares of Shipping Corporation of India were recently sold under the P.S.U. disinvestment scheme;

(b) the amount realised from this sale; and

(c) the names of the brokers who facilitated this sale?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPTT. OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPTT. OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SMT. KRISHNA SAHI): (a) During 1992-93 no share of Shipping Corporation of India was sold.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

@ Previously Unstarred Question 1295, Transferred from 4-8-93.